

Families with Children from China  
-- Delaware Valley (FCC-DV)

Visit our website:  
fcc-dv.org

## PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Barbara Keane  
Phone: (215) 340-1899  
Email: bkeane@fcc-dv.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
9 AM EDT, August 3, 2004

*Bringing the World Together:  
A Celebration of Cultural Diversity*  
set for November 14, 2004, 10 AM - 4 PM, at the Adam's Mark Hotel  
Sponsored by  
Families with Children from China - Delaware Valley  
(FCC-DV)

*Philadelphia, PA..* "We want to convey that the beauty of all human connection is reflected in the tapestry that is our world, and that the bonds of love are as *real* as bonds of blood." With that statement, Barbara Keane, vice president of FCC-DV and event chair, sums up the mission of "*Bringing the World Together: A Celebration of Cultural Diversity.*"

Slated for Sunday, November 14, 2004, from 10 AM till 4 PM, at the Adam's Mark Hotel on City Line Avenue and sponsored by Families with Children from China-Delaware Valley (FCC-DV), the event aims to promote tolerance and respect for the world's cultures and raise the social consciousness regarding adoption. A performance by actress/comedian **Alison Larkin** will serve as the day's headliner.

The program will open with an address by **Victoria Rowell**, an Emmy-nominated actress who is currently a star of daytime television's *The Young and the Restless*. Rowell, who was raised within the foster care system, has created a foundation to support youngsters in foster care and has appeared on the cover of *Essence* Magazine with three of her five foster mothers.

"Ms. Rowell is a beautiful reminder that a loving presence in one's life, even if not in 'traditional' form, can contribute to the foundation necessary for

the launch into adulthood and the challenges of living," says Barbara Keane. Included in the line-up are the following performances by children: the Fitzpatrick Irish Dancers, The Dance Arts Collaborative Jazz Company, and the Red Phoenix Chinese American School.

Following an International Buffet Luncheon, **Alison Larkin** will perform her one-woman show, **The English American**. Larkin's tale of her personal journey--having been born in Appalachia and adopted and raised on the other side of the Atlantic by British parents--has opened to rave reviews in London and New York.

During Larkin's performance, children will be introduced to instruments from around the world, in interactive fashion, by international folksinger Daria. Her performance will be followed by world storyteller Lisa Facciponti, whose engaging tales delight children everywhere. The day's events will close with a family concert by Kala Jo Jo, a folklorist, musician and storyteller, whose songs and tales celebrate life and enable community building and healing.

In addition to attending scheduled events, a silent auction/raffle will be held, with opportunities to win prizes, including an original painting by an acclaimed children's book illustrator. Participants will be able to shop for holiday gifts at tables manned by a variety of vendors, and learn about cultures from around the world.

All-Day admission is just \$33 for adults and \$15 for children; age 4 and under, free. **For those who pre-register, the admission price includes lunch** (contact Barbara Keane for pre-registration forms). **Pre-registration deadline is October 31, 2004**. After that date, attendees may register at the door on the day of the event, but **lunch will not be included**. Half-day tickets (10am-1pm or 1pm-4pm) will only be available at the door (\$20 Adults, \$10 children 5 and up; age 4 and under, free). Adam's Mark restaurants will be open for on-site registrants who wish to purchase lunch. **Admission is free to members of the press who register at the door and show current identification.**

*FCC-DV is a non-profit organization for families who have adopted children from China. It strongly supports the notion that adoption is a unifying experience in more ways than one: the creation of family and, often, a blending of cultures.*